

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 19, 2002      LB 1073

SENATOR SMITH: I raise the same issue with the emergency clause that's attached is, you know, we've discussed that this is an education issue and we need to...

SENATOR THOMPSON: Okay, since...I guess I...if you're...the question I have, and I would just like to use my time to address that. These are infractions, the same as whether you have a headlight out, whether...nothing is changing in the statute except adding five-year-olds. And I'm passing out a letter to you. I don't consider that a person who got a ticket for this would be charged with...consider that to the level that Senator Smith does, and I'm going to shortly, on my next time, explain to you what...how...what section of law this fits into. But I did pass out a letter from the president of the Police Chiefs Association of Nebraska which says it better than I do, and the problem is we had that system in place several years ago and it was unworkable. Senator Baker worked on that issue. A couple years ago we tried this new approach, which has also proven unworkable. So we're just putting it into statute in the same fashion as we do all the other similar infractions. And, for the record, I'll read Kyle...no, no, no, we changed it, Senator Chambers. The...Chief of the Grand Island Police Department wrote this: The Police Chiefs Association of Nebraska does not feel that Senator Smith's amendment to LB 1073, which allows dismissal of child restraint violations if proof of purchase is...of an approved system is presented prior to the court date, enhances, in any way, the purpose of this legislation. This would create another costly paperwork tracking responsibility. There will also be the question of how proof of purchase is defined. Many receipts do not record the nomenclature of the item purchased. Can a person bring in a hand receipt from an approved seat they purchased at a garage sale? The amendment is rife with fraud possibilities. Those who neglect safeguarding their children certainly would have no qualms to attempt to falsify proof of purchase receipts. Please do not make this legislation any harder than it has to be. And also I would mention the reason the change...

SENATOR COORDSEN: One minute.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...is being proposed as it is in this bill is